

PUBLIC LANDS—REDUCTION OF PRICES, CESSION, &c.

RESOLUTIONS

OF

THE LEGISLATURE OF ILLINOIS,

RELATIVE TO

The reduction of the price of public lands, and the cession of the same to the States in which they lie, &c.

FEBRUARY 9, 1847.

Read, and laid upon the table.

PREAMBLE AND RESOLUTIONS instructing Senators, &c., in Congress, on the subject of the graduation or cession of the public lands,

Whereas the present land system of the United States tends to retard the population and growth of the States in whose limits the public lands lie; and whereas the true policy of the federal government is to encourage the sale and settlement of the public lands thereof, whereby the national wealth will be increased, and national prosperity promoted; and whereas the present condition of things in this State loudly calls for the exertion of all the just powers conferred on the legislature hereof to place her in a better attitude, and to improve her financial condition; and whereas the reduction of the price of the public lands of the United States, lying within the constitutional boundaries of the State, would tend to increase the population, and, in a corresponding degree, the resources of the State, and thereby the means to pay the present large debt of the State: therefore,

Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Illinois, That our Senators in Congress be instructed, and our Representatives requested, to use their best endeavors to procure the passage of a law to reduce the price of the public lands within the limits of the several States, or for the cession of the same to the States in whose boundaries they may respectively lie, as the one or the other measure shall be deemed more practicable at this time.

Resolved, That the governor of this State be respectfully requested to forward a copy of the foregoing preamble and resolution to each of our Senators and Representatives in the Congress of the United States of America.

NEWTON CLOUD,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

JOSEPH B. WELLS,

Speaker of the Senate.

Originated in the Senate.

H. W. MOORE, *Secretary.*

DEPARTMENT OF STATE, *Illinois.*

I, H. S. Cooley, Secretary of State, do hereby certify the foregoing to be a correct copy from the original resolutions of the General Assembly on file in my office.

Witness my hand at Springfield, this 14th day of January, 1847.

H. S. COOLEY,
Secretary of State.

FEBRUARY 9, 1847.

Read, and laid upon the table.

PREAMBLE AND RESOLUTIONS introduced January 2nd, 1847, in the Senate, and the session of the same to the States in which they lie.

Whereas the present land system of the United States tends to retard the population and growth of the States in whose limits the public lands lie; and whereas the true policy of the federal government is to encourage the sale and settlement of the public lands thereof, whereby the national wealth will be increased, and national prosperity promoted; and whereas the present condition of things in this State loudly calls for the exertion of all the just powers conferred on the legislature hitherto to place her in a better attitude, and to improve her financial condition; and whereas the reduction of the price of the public lands of the United States, lying within the constitutional boundaries of the State, would tend to increase the population, and, in a corresponding degree, the resources of the State, and thereby the means to pay the present large debt of the State; therefore,

Resolved by the General Assembly of the State of Illinois, That our Senators in Congress be instructed, and our Representatives requested, to use their best endeavors to procure the passage of a law to reduce the price of the public lands within the limits of the several States, or for the cession of the same to the States in whose boundaries they may respectively lie, as the one or the other measure shall be deemed more practicable at this time.

Resolved, That the governor of this State be respectfully requested to forward a copy of the foregoing preamble and resolution to each of our Senators and Representatives in the Congress of the United States of America.

NEWTON CLOUD,

Speaker of the House of Representatives.

JOSEPH B. WELLS,

Speaker of the Senate.